



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

17 MARCH 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – California Judge Seeks to Prevent Immigration Arrests Inside State Courts

(U) The chief justice of California's Supreme Court asked the administration of US President Donald Trump to prevent immigration agents from arresting undocumented immigrants inside the state's courthouses. Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye said she was gravely troubled by recent reports that federal agents were "stalking undocumented immigrants in our courthouses to make arrests," in a letter addressed to US Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Secretary of Homeland Security John Kelly. Immigrant rights groups say federal agents have entered courthouses with increased frequency this year, including in California, Massachusetts, Maryland and Texas, said National Immigration Law Center staff attorney Melissa Keaney.

SOURCE: 16 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) San Jose – CHP Reports Teen Shot and Wounded on US 101

(U) The California Highway Patrol says a 17-year old boy has been shot and wounded on US 101 in San Jose. All northbound lanes of the freeway were shut down for the shooting that happened yesterday, and traffic was being diverted to Interstate 280 and 680. The lanes reopened several hours later. The CHP says it is seeking a white Dodge Charger with two men inside. The shooting continues a pattern of recent gunfire on freeways in the San Francisco Bay Area, though there's no clear connection between the incidents. It was the fifth shooting on the region's freeways in the last three weeks, and came a week after the deadly shooting of a 24-year-old man on Interstate 80 near Richmond. The CHP estimates there have been 80 shootings on Bay Area freeways since 2015.

SOURCE: 16 March 2017, [SF Gate](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – TSA Finds 58 Firearms in Carry-Ons at US Airports in a Week

(U) Washington – The most recent weekly report from the TSA shows that 58 firearms were discovered in carry-on bags at US airports, including two handguns at Sacramento International Airport. Of the 58 firearms discovered during the week of 27 February to 5 March at the nation's airports, 54 were loaded and 21 had a round chambered. Passengers can travel with firearms in checked baggage, but they must first be declared to the airline, according to the TSA.

SOURCE: 16 March 2017, [Sacramento Bee](#)

(U) New York – Al-Qa'ida Operative Guilty in Death of US Servicemen, Bomb Plot

(U) Brooklyn – A Saudi Arabia-born man was convicted yesterday of participating in a 2003 attack in Afghanistan that killed two US servicemen and plotting to bomb a US embassy in West Africa, federal prosecutors in Brooklyn said. A jury found Ibrahim Suleiman Adnan Adam Harun, known by the nom de guerre Spin Ghul, guilty of all counts after only two hours of deliberations. He faces life in prison at his sentencing. Harun was not present in court for the trial. Since his extradition from Italy in October 2012,

he has insisted he is a "warrior" who should face a military tribunal rather than criminal proceedings. Harun, who claims Niger citizenship, traveled to Afghanistan to join al-Qa'ida weeks before the attacks of September 11, 2001.

SOURCE: 16 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) New York – Man Left Undetonated Explosive at Bus Terminal

(U) New York City – Police arrested a man after he left a crude explosive device in a briefcase during rush hour at a busy New York City bus terminal, according to a criminal complaint filed yesterday. The device did not detonate. Arsenio Mason, 39, is accused of leaving the briefcase on a chair inside a deli at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey bus terminal on 15 March. The case contained what appeared to be a "flash bang grenade," as well as a knife, bolt cutters and screwdrivers. Police arrested Mason after he returned to retrieve the bag. They say he was carrying methamphetamine, an illegal stimulant, in a pipe. Mason, of Jersey City, New Jersey, is facing charges of possession of a weapon and possession of a controlled substance.

SOURCE: 16 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Mexico – Cartels Moving Drug Crops into Oaxaca State

(U) Oaxaca – A Mexican army general said his forces are increasingly coming under fire from drug traffickers protecting opium poppy plantations in Oaxaca State, where opium growers are moving production to take advantage of mountainous terrain and impoverished villages. Gen. Alfonso Duarte Mugica reported that army patrols were fired at twice this week as they tried to cut down poppy plantations in western Oaxaca. Duarte Mugica said the farm communities were being recruited by the cartels and acknowledged the army is walking a thin line in Oaxaca, where Indian communities jealously guard their territories and their rights. The shift to Oaxaca has officials worried. The state is better known for its colonial capital and beaches, but its large impoverished Indian population and mountainous terrain could make it ideal for growing opium.

SOURCE: 16 March 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) North Korea – US Policy of 'Strategic Patience' With North Korea Ends

(U) Pyongyang – A US policy of strategic patience with North Korea has ended, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said in South Korea today, adding that military action would be "on the table" if North Korea elevated the threat level. Tillerson began his first Asian visit as secretary of state in Japan on Wednesday and will travel to China tomorrow with a main focus on finding a "new approach" on North Korea after what he described as two decades of failed efforts to denuclearize the insular nation. He said any North Korean actions that threatened the South would be met with "an appropriate response." Tillerson also called on China to implement sanctions against North Korea and said there was no need for China to punish South Korea for deploying an advanced US anti-missile system aimed at defending against North Korea.

SOURCE: 17 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) North Korea – Interpol 'Issues Red Notice' For Kim Jong Nam Murder

(U) Pyongyang – Interpol has issued a red notice, the closest to an international arrest warrant, for four North Koreans wanted in connection with the murder of Kim Jong Nam. The estranged half-brother of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was murdered on 13 February when Malaysian police say two women - an Indonesian and a Vietnamese - smeared super toxic VX nerve agent on his face at Kuala Lumpur

International Airport. The two women were charged with murder earlier this month, but police are looking for seven North Korean suspects in connection with the killing, including four who are believed to have made their way back to Pyongyang.

SOURCE: 17 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Spain – Basque Militant Separatist Group ETA Set to Announce Disarmament

(U) Guernica – Basque militant separatist group ETA will announce plans to disarm today, saying a full handover of weapons was scheduled for 8 April. ETA, which has killed more than 800 people over several decades through bombings and assassinations, called a unilateral ceasefire in 2011 and has pledged to turn in its weapons, though a full handover has not yet happened. The group has been severely weakened in recent years after hundreds of its members, including its leader, were arrested and police seized several of its weapons stashes. ETA was formed in the late 1950s during the dictatorship of Francisco Franco with the aim of establishing an independent Basque state in northern Spain and southern France.

SOURCE: 17 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Turkey – Police Reportedly Foil ‘Sensational’ ISIS Attack

(U) Istanbul – Turkish police yesterday detained two suspected members of ISIS who were allegedly planning a "sensational attack" similar to the massacre at an Istanbul nightclub on New Year's night. The Istanbul police raided a suspected ISIS cell in the Kagithane district on the European side of the city, detaining two men identified as C.C. and I.D. who are said to be of Uzbek origin. The two "were readying for a sensational attack like the one" at the Reina night club that killed 39 people, mainly foreigners, and was claimed by ISIS jihadists. Police seized two Kalashnikov rifles, ammunition magazines, 500 bullets, ISIS-related documents and digital materials.

SOURCE: 16 March 2017, [NDTV](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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